

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 45-63 remain pending in the Application. Entry of Applicants' remarks is respectfully requested.

The Applicants continue to respectfully traverse the rejections. The references, taken alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the recited features and relationships. Applicants' previous remarks filed October 12, 2004 are incorporated herein by reference. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of Applicants' expanded remarks herein.

The Applicants particularly disagree with the interpretation the Office has attributed to Coutts. Coutts does not teach or suggest an automated banking machine including a cassette reader that is operative to *remotely read* the data of a data indicator (of a cassette) without contact therebetween (e.g., claim 1). The Action (at the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8) alleges that Coutts' cassette low sensors (44) within an ATM "read, sense, or detect at least one signal generated from a currency cassette." This allegation is based on the assumption that "data indicating the level of currency supplied in each cassette *has to* come from the currency cassette." The Applicants respectfully disagree.

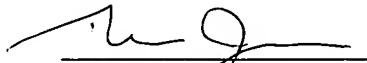
Coutts is silent as to how a cassette low sensor (44) operates. The Office has provided no evidence that Coutts' currency cassettes generate a signal that is *remotely read* by the cassette low sensors (44). The unsupported allegation is based on pure speculation. Coutts does not teach or suggest *remotely reading* a cassette indicator with a reader in an ATM (e.g., claim 1). Furthermore, a conventional currency cassette uses direct *mechanical* means to communicate (via physical contact) a low currency level to an ATM. For example, note U.S. Patent No. 4,871,085, which is discussed in Applicants' Specification.

The record lacks substantial evidence support. *In re Zurko*, 258 F.3d 1379, 59 USPQ2d 1693 (Fed. Cir. 2001). *In re Lee*, 277 F.3d 1338, 61 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 2002). The Action does not factually support any *prima facie* conclusion of obviousness. In light of the reliance on a misinterpretation of Coutts, the rejections should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Allowance of all of Applicants' claims is respectfully requested. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any aspect of the Application by telephone at the Office's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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